

GRESHAM LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

As will be seen by an announcement in another column, the Gresham Life Assurance Society of London, England, has now received its license to transact in Canada the business of life insurance. Applications are now invited for agencies and branch managerships. The head office for the Dominion is at Montreal, Mr. Arch. R. Howell being manager for Canada, and well-known gentlemen are acting as Canadian directors. The funds of the Gresham aggregate \$50,000,000.

At the annual meeting of the Equitable Life Assurance Society the following new directors were elected:—Charles D. Hertton and William S. Skinner, for a term of four years from December 31; Richard H. Williams, Edgar J. Levey and W. W. Finley, for a term of one year; John D. Crimmins, Alton B. Parker, Samuel Rea, Douglass Robinson, Norman B. Rein and Samuel Fenton, for a term of two years, and Charles D. Barney and George C. Boldt for a term of three years.

"The German theory of a fire code, and for that matter of all Europe, is based on the presumption that no fire can ensue without carelessness, or negligence, or the act of God, and that it is 'up to' the occupant of the premises where a fire originates to show (if he does not want to take the consequences of a fire having happened on his premises) that it was not through his carelessness or negligence. If we adopted similar rules our fires would be astonishingly reduced."—F. O. Affeld.

British fire offices transact a considerable amount of business in China, their agents usually being local merchants who have experience of the country. But the Chinese have some strange misconceptions of the functions of fire insurance. One enterprising shopkeeper, for example, took out a fire policy not long ago, and soon afterwards removed all his goods and set fire to the building. On payment of his claim being refused he considered that he was an ill-used man and had been swindled out of what was honestly due to him. Another who had a fire shortly after having taken out a policy was charged with having himself set his place on fire. His surprised reply was: "What is the good of a policy if you cannot have a fire when you like and collect the money?"—The Policyholder.

Ninety-five fatal and one hundred and ninety-one serious injuries to work people were reported to the Department of Labour during November. The record is considerably more favourable than that of the preceding month or that of the same month last year. In October there were 344 accidents, fatal and non-fatal, and in November, 1910, there were 407. The chief accident during the month was the foundering of the schooner *Antigua* off St. Martin's River in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, when the captain and eleven sailors were drowned. There were eleven killed in the railway service, eleven in agricultural pursuits and twelve among unskilled labourers. The largest number of non-fatal accidents occurred in the metal trades, namely, forty-five, but the twenty-three non-fatal accidents reported in the railway service were of a more serious character.

Personals.

Mr. S. A. Sabbatton, assistant manager of the Laurentide Company, has been elected a director in succession to the late Mr. Charles F. Smith.

The Merchants Bank's new branch at Wallaceburg, Ont., is under the management of Mr. L. P. Thompson.

Mr. W. E. Jardine, manager of the Bank of New Brunswick, Fredericton, N.B., has resigned to accept a position with the Bank of Vancouver, at Vancouver, B.C.

Mr. Roland de Grandpré, hitherto with Messrs. Evans and Johnson, has resigned from their staff, as from December 11, having been appointed inspector for the Province of Quebec, outside the cities of Montreal and Quebec, for the Sun Insurance Office, of London, England.

DEATH OF MR. EDWARD RAWLINGS.

News of the death of Mr. Edward Rawlings, president of the Guarantee Company of North America, will be received with regret not only in Canada, but also in the United States, where branches and agencies of the company were located in many important cities. The sad event took place at his Montreal residence, 41 Simpson street, on Tuesday, Mr. Rawlings being in the 73rd year of his age. The deceased gentleman, who was born in London, England, was of distinguished Irish and Cornish descent. He arrived in Canada in 1863, having been chosen to establish in Montreal and manage, a branch of the European Life and Guarantee Company, of London, England, with which he had previously been connected. Mr. Rawlings was thus the first to introduce on this continent the system of corporate fidelity insurance. Mr. Rawlings continued as Canadian manager of the European Life and Guarantee until 1868, and on its retirement, when the Canadian Guarantee business was transferred to the Citizens Insurance Company of Canada, took charge of the Citizens' Guarantee branch, until in 1872, he successfully accomplished the organization of the Canada Guarantee Company, now the Guarantee Company of North America. A few years after its foundation the operations of the company were extended to the United States where Mr. Rawlings did pioneer work in fidelity insurance. Rigidly adhering to fidelity business only the company has long been known as one of the most conservative and successful of its kind. Mr. Rawlings was likewise president of the United States Guarantee Company, which he established in New York in 1890 for purposes similar to the Guarantee Company of North America, and working in unison therewith. He was also a director of the Montreal Telegraph Company. In November, 1895, he was elected vice-president of the American Bankers' Association and served for some time, but resigned a few years ago. He was a governor of the Montreal General Hospital for twenty years or more, justice of the peace for the Province of Quebec for about the same period, and twice president of the St. George's Society of Montreal. Mr. Rawlings is survived by a widow, three sons and three daughters, with whom deep sympathy is felt in their bereavement.